

Lolo National Forest
2014 Annual Heritage Program Report



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Lolo National Forest Heritage Program
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Executive Summary

The Lolo National Forest 2014 Annual Heritage Program Report provides a summarized account of the Forest Heritage Program accomplishments during the calendar year. The report also satisfies an annual requirement of the Region One Programmatic Agreement (PA)¹ for documenting Forest Service program administration in accordance with Sections 106 and 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

The calendar year presented Forest Heritage Program staff with numerous small and large National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) projects. As a result, 56 individual projects were reviewed under Section 106. In accordance with the PA and standard review practices, 19 required inventories (or field investigations) and 37 yielded No Inventory (or no field investigation) decisions. All inventoried projects resulted in findings of No Effect or No Adverse Effect to Historic Properties. Five new sites were recorded and added to the forest inventory as a result of project investigations. Additionally, four sites were evaluated for NRHP eligibility.

Throughout the year, the Lolo National Forest Heritage Program consulted with the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Nation and the Nez Perce Tribe regarding Section 106 reviews of projects and Section 110 actions. Two site visits were made with CSKT representatives during the field season. The forest continues to consult effectively with each party in person, by mail, phone and electronic communication.

Several Section 110 projects were conducted on the Lolo National Forest this year. These projects include the annual Savenac Nursery Passport in Time (PIT), two Heritage Stewardship Enhancement (HSE)-funded projects including Phase II of the Big Hole Peak Lookout PIT and West Fork Butte Lookout Rehabilitation, and 55 site inspections -including 15 Priority Heritage Asset (PHA) site visits. The Big Hole Lookout project continued this year with support from the Region One Historic Preservation Team, the Region One Packstring, Back Country Law Enforcement Pack String, and the Wild Horse Plains Chapter of the Backcountry Horsemen. Unfortunately, the Monture Guard Station Barn Log work project slated for 2014 with the Preservation Team was cancelled due to budget constraints.

Educational outreach was delivered to school students and teachers alike during the 2014 Forest Discovery Days, a Forest for Every Classroom, and Bonner Middle School presentations. Karuzas presented at Superior and Plains Thompson Falls district orientations information about what cultural resources and what employees should do when they find a possible cultural site on the forest.

For 2014, the Lolo NF Heritage Program consisted of Sydney Bacon and Erika Karuzas continuing their roles as East Zone (Missoula, Ninemile and Seeley Lake Ranger Districts) and West Zone (Superior and Plains/Thompson Falls Ranger Districts) Archaeologists, respectively. Bacon and Karuzas prepared the portions of this report relative to their Zone; therefore questions or concerns should be addressed to the corresponding Zone Archeologist.

Attendance of trainings and conferences was limited due to agency budget and travel limitations in 2014. We took advantage of several free training opportunities offered locally and online. In April, Bacon and Karuzas attended the Montana Archaeological Society Annual meeting in

¹ *Programmatic Agreement Among the United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Northern Region (Montana), the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the Montana State Historic Preservation Officer Regarding Cultural Resources Management on National Forests in the State of Montana* (1995).

Hamilton, Montana. In April, Karuzas attended and passed the Supply Unit leader course S-356, and passed the arduous fitness test for the fire season. The spring has many of the training sessions, Karuzas was still bringing her baby to work since she was under six months old, 2015 she'll take her mandatory trainings.

Bacon presented a paper at the Montana Archaeological Society meeting reviewing the results of the Upper Rattlesnake Archaeological Survey conducted by UM Professor Douglas MacDonald. Later in the month, Bacon attended Fall Protection training put on by the Bitterroot NF. In May, she bumped up her fire skills and took advantage of Resource Advisor training, and completed S-130, or 'Guard School', with the light walk fit test. Bacon continues the position of Region One Heritage INFRA data steward; and attended the National Heritage Infrastructure Management Initiative (NHIMI) Regional Leaders Team meeting in Portland, OR on October 20-23.

The Lolo NF had one large fire in the summer of 2014. The Thompson Creek complex burned 1,588 acres on the Plains /Thompson Falls Ranger Districts. Karuzas provided Burned Area Emergency Rehabilitation (BAER) support for the fire. When the fire first started it was blazing towards Priscilla Peak Lookout 24SA0157. On August 11, 2014 the Historic Structure wrap team was called in to protect Priscilla Peak Lookout. After the fire, Karuzas surveyed the high probability locations for cultural sites along the Thompson River drainages and confluences. No new sites were found.



24SA0157 Priscilla Peak LO structure protection.

Part I: Forest Inventory Strategy

The Forest Heritage Program continues to use the *Site Identification Strategy Prepared for Bitterroot, Flathead, and Lolo National Forests* (SIS), developed in accordance with the PA and approved by the MT SHPO in 2003. The SIS provides information useful for predictive modeling across the forest, directed towards identifying high, medium and low probability areas for previously unrecorded prehistoric and historic cultural resources sites.

In 2014, Heritage staff tested the SIS model by conducting pedestrian surveys of some projects in areas across the forest identified as having low to high probability. Forest personnel feel the SIS is an effective tool for predictive modeling of site potential across the forest. As our GIS skills have been honed, we have applied slope gradient and hydrology to our predictions of site probability areas.

However, on-the-ground observations of slope and hydrology still prove the most reliable method for assessing and verifying site potential areas. We have identified issues with the slope percentages in relation to low, medium and high probability areas. Topography on the paper map does not always reflect what is out in the field. The Lolo NF plans, with assistance from the Bitterroot and Flathead NFs, to amend the SIS in the near future to accommodate more reasonable and realistic survey requirements.

The Forest Heritage Program will continue to use and test the SIS on future Section 106 undertakings and Section 110 inventories. Any new information that may come to light would be assessed and subsequently incorporated into the Lolo National Forests' site identification methodology.

Part II: American Indian Consultation

The Lolo National Forest encompasses lands traditionally occupied by peoples of the Salish, Pend d'Oreille, Kootenai, and Nez Perce. Today, the Forest consults on a government-to-government basis with the Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Nation (CSKT) and the Nez Perce Tribe. These consultations help to ensure that historic properties that may be of religious and cultural significance to tribal parties are considered during planning and implementation of agency actions.

Consultations with CSKT continue to occur face-to-face, by telephone, email and surface mail communication.

Heritage staff and the Lolo Public Affairs Officer Boyd Hartwig met with CSKT Tribal Preservation Department members on three occasions during the calendar year; one face-to-face meeting and two field visits. On April 14, Bacon and Karuzas traveled to Pablo to meet with Ira Matt, Mike Durglo, Sr., and Mary Rodgers. We updated the CSKT of project status of the Center Horse and Marshall-Woods on the East Zone as well as the Jam Cracker, Swamp Eddy, BPA Powerline Projects, St. Regis Mainstem and the delayed implementation of the Cedar Thom Project. The O'Keefe Grazing Allotment, Tribal Boundary Access Issues, Yellowstone Pipeline (YPL) abandonment on Lolo NF, Lolo Peak Resort, and the Morrell Creek Bridge Construction were also discussed.

Hartwig led the discussion on Resource Advisory Committee (RAC)'s need for a Tribal representative; duties and responsibilities of the Forest Service Tribal Liaison.

On September 23, Karuzas and Bacon along with CSKT Preservation Department/Culture Committee members Francis Auld, Patricia Hewankorn, Loretta "Gigi" Caye, and Christopher Tenas visited 24MN0139- rock cairns at Horsehead Peak along the Ninemile Divide, which straddles the Ninemile and Superior Ranger Districts. The site is located within the proposed Jam Cracker Project.

On October 29, Karuzas visited with Mike Durglo Sr. and Arlene Caye of the Tribal Preservation Department to the proposed project Little Eddy on the Plains / Thompson Falls Ranger District. Following the project field visit, Karuzas took them to three sites outside of the project boundary on adjacent Montana State land. The trio went to the mouth of 24SA0351 -Swamp Creek prehistoric occupation, and two rock art sites 24SA0371 and 24SA0372. The rock art sites, which recently entered State ownership, had not been visited by Durglo Sr. in the past.

Consultation also occurred via email/ surface with the Nez Perce Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Patrick Baird. A face-to-face visit did not occur in 2014.

The Forest Heritage Program will continue to consult with the CSKT and the Nez Perce Tribes at least annually or on a project-by project basis as appropriate for Section 106 review of proposed projects and for Section 110 inventories on the Lolo National Forest.

Part III: Section 110 Projects

Forest Discovery Days

Bacon discussed archaeology to local 5th grade students on May 8, 2014 at Forest Discovery Days, a program sponsored by the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation. Eight, 25-minute presentations were given throughout the day at Pattee Canyon Picnic Area. The students gained knowledge of archaeology and history of the area via demonstration and hands-on learning.

A Forest for Every Classroom

On June 19, Bacon gave two, 1 ½ hour archaeology presentations to local teachers in support of the Forest for Every Classroom Teacher Training in partnership with Forest Service Wildlife Interpretive Specialist Sue Reel. Bacon talked about the local Rock Creek archaeology and gave her demonstration about red ochre and atl' atl' presentation. As a result, the group has the opportunity to contact the Lolo NF Heritage Program for future school presentations.

Bonner Middle School

On October 13, Bacon gave 2, 40-minute presentations to the students regarding local archaeology and history, focusing on place names in the area and the impact of historic logging.

Lolo NF Site Stewards

The Lolo NF Heritage Program is fortunate to have two Site Stewards providing assistance in monitoring important sites on the Forest. Both stewards have completed the necessary training provided by the Montana Site Stewardship Program, a subset of Project Archaeology out of Bozeman.

Lydia Gomes is responsible for monitoring sites along the Highway 12 corridor including Fort Fizzle (24MO00129), Lee Creek Rock Shelter (24MO00274), Howard Creek Historic Camp (24MO00120) and the Lolo Trail NHL (24MO00104).

John Green, currently a volunteer at the Ninemile Ranger District, is in the process of researching the Stony Creek Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camp (24MO00142). In the mid 1990's the Ranger District had a celebration including any surviving CCC members. Several oral historic interviews were conducted during this time, and the area was mapped out to identify original building locations. John is using their information gathered by the CCC'ers in the 1990's to evaluate the site in CY15.

Heritage Stewardship Enhancement Projects

Big Hole Peak Lookout PIT Project : Priority Project 1

Big Hole Peak Lookout is located on the Plains/Thompson Falls Ranger District of the Lolo National Forest. This year \$15,000 in HSE money was awarded in order to continue the process of restoring this unique 'Grange Hall' style lookout. We had several partners; including Passport in Time (PIT) volunteers, Wild Horse Plains Backcountry Horsemen (BCH), the Region One Historic Preservation Team, Back Country Law Enforcement Stock String, and Region One Pack String, complete the second successful rehabilitation project at the lookout. Additionally, \$7,000 was awarded by the Sanders County Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) to fly in supplies from the gravel pit to the lookout. The helicopter brought up 15 logs that were cut and peeled in late spring. They also flew in about 1,000 pounds of equipment for the Historic Preservation Team.



Prior to project onset, Back Country Horsemen and Karuzas cut and peeled fifteen replacement lodgepole pine logs to be flown to the Lookout. John Errecart, Forest Silviculturist and BHC member coordinated with the Mission Valley Helitack Crew to haul in the peeled logs and hundreds of pounds of tools and materials via helicopter. The Plains / Thompson Falls fire crew ran up the trail the first day and cleared out a new camp site for this year's camp location which made the hike to the lookout every day, much, much easier.



The project spanned two weeks: August 18-28, 2014. Seven volunteers worked with West Zone Lolo NF Archaeologist Erika Karuzas and the Region One Historic Preservation Team for six days. We had two volunteers return from the 2013 PIT, four die-hard PIT volunteers, and one first-time ever PIT volunteer for our project! We had nine volunteers from BCH. PIT volunteers donated a total of 384 hours and BCH donated 412 hours for a **total of 796 hours** during the project which, when valued at the standard Federal rate of \$22.50 per hour, resulted in a labor contribution of **\$17,910!**

This year we had during the winter, the window frames repaired and reglazed in the Historic Preservation Team work shop. They also fixed the lookout door, but when we went to install it, the door had deteriorated so much, that the dimensions were too small when re-installed. At the lookout after we removed all of the furniture again, we painted five coats of green and four coats of white paint to the 19 windows and sashes. Paint takes a long time to dry when it is raining for a week straight. Log work was completed on the north side of the Lookout. Three logs were

replaced, and one was repaired under the guidance of Kirby and then Cathy. We worked with Kirby for one week, then he needed to rescue a building from falling into a river in the Bob Marshall, and Cathy continued to keep the log work rolling.

HSE dollars were used to hire back country seasoned cook Byron Williams. Meal preparation is tricky with no water on site and the Forest was under a Stage I fire restriction. Just three miles west of us we had the Thompson Creek Complex, but the Incident Commander and District Ranger felt that we would be safe up on the mountain from the fire. Little did we know that lightning storms, not the fire, would be our greatest concerns for the first week. The lookout was struck the first night we were there and the 2013 lightening projection was shiny, as the patina was knocked off the copper wire when it was struck in the middle of the first night.



HSE dollars were also spent on videography of this project. We hired Libby Langston, Missoula Ranger District Fire Prevention technician to record our guests that arrived during the first week of the project. She recorded the PIT volunteers working in the rain, Region 1 Historic Preservation Team Kirby Matthew witty comments, and managed to capture Karuzas on video. We had two very special guests arrive, Tim Garcia and Molly Morrison. Our new Forest Supervisor, Tim Garcia and entourage walked three miles uphill, in the pouring rain, to meet the crew at the Lookout. Molly Morrison was the last lookout at Big Hole (1970-1971), came up on a

rare bluebird hour during the first week, and we recorded her thoughts on our project. We hope to use this film at conferences in commemoration of the National Historic Preservation Act 50 year anniversary.

The success in planning and executing this undertaking was due to Region 1 Historic Preservation Team expert skills and extreme patience. John Errecart provided logistical guidance with the support of the Backcountry Horsemen, as well as the LEO and Regional Pack Strings.

For FY2015, Phase III of the Big Hole Lookout Rehabilitation is proposed. Once the lookout is restored to its historic appearance it has the support from the Forest Supervisor to become a candidate for the Lolo NF Cabin Rental Program.



West Fork Butte Lookout Cabin Rental: Priority Project 2

West Fork Butte Lookout Rehabilitation was the Lolo NF East Zone Heritage Stewardship Enhancement project for FY2014. Retired Missoula District personnel, Gene Thompson and Al Fix, were hired to perform a variety of maintenance on the popular year round cabin rental. Their salaries and project materials and supplies were paid through the HSE award.

Syd Bacon and District Recreation Staff Officer Al Hilshey visited the lookout in June to assess its condition and prioritize the work needed. The floor, although structurally sound, needed

refinishing. The two bunk beds inside were in rough shape from years of revolving occupancy and graffiti. The lookout threshold needed repair. The door to the outhouse also needed to be replaced.



Thompson and Fix began work on West Fork Butte Lookout on September 29. First they had to remove all furnishings from the interior in preparation for sanding. The ¼-round trim was carefully removed and the edges where the floor and walls meet were sanded by hand. A floor sander, borrowed from the R1 Historic Preservation Team, was used on the rest. The floor must have been

stripped with a grinder and then varnished at one point; as there here fairly deep semi-circular gouges in the floor, and several passes of the sander were needed to remove the reddish layers. For the first few passes, 38 grit sandpaper was used; followed by 60 grit, and lastly with 100 grit sandpaper.

While Thompson continued sanding, Fix replaced the failing door jamb and gave the door to the lookout a fresh coat of paint.

The floor was removed of what seemed like endless layers of varnish; revealing the clear fir flooring panels and noticeably brightening the interior of the building. The photo to the right displays this; the dark line at the bottom is where the alidade used to be.





Prior to on site work, measurements of the failing outhouse door were taken. Thompson and Fix used these numbers to fabricate a replacement door in the R1 Preservation Team's shop. Hilshey installed the new door following the lookout floor sanding and threshold work.



for

Perhaps the most worthwhile project to come out of the HSE funding was the bunk bed fabrication for the lookout. Earlier in the year, Thompson and Fix produced two bunk beds the Morgan-Case Bunkhouse. The craftsmanship and quality of these bunk beds were greatly admired by District staff. Due to the poor condition of the existing bunk beds at the lookout, we asked if they would be interested in creating two more. Again, using the equipment at the R1 Preservation Team Shop, they were able to fabricate the beds; this time using bright, clear larch and fir as opposed to the existing reddish brown painted plywood beds. After the snow melts, the beds will be delivered to West Fork Butte Lookout and reassembled.



On the last day, Bacon washed most of the 172 windows. It's amazing what cooking grease and wood smoke will do to block the scenery. The window panes and wells were dusted as well. In all, the project involved \$504.00 in supplies and \$4496.00 in labor; completing much-needed maintenance, repairs and additions to the West Fork Butte Lookout.

Friends of Upper Rock Creek Work Accomplishments

This year marked the fifth consecutive work party organized by the Friends of Rock Creek, a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization that, in 2009, established a partnership agreement with the Missoula Ranger District of the Lolo National Forest. With the financial assistance of the Willett Foundation, (a former Lolo NF Archaeologist from the 1970's and 1980's) the Friends assist the Ranger District with preservation maintenance of three historic properties in Upper Rock Creek; The Rock Creek Cabin and Hogback and Morgan-Case Homesteads.

The **Morgan-Case Bunkhouse** received several finishing touches. Two sturdy and attractive bunk beds were made from scratch. Several new historically accurate furnishings were purchased for the interior. A woodstove was installed on the northeast corner, relocating the vent pipe. The old vent pipe and electrical box on the exterior northeast side of the building was removed and patched. An electrical line was installed adjacent to the subsurface phone line put in last year. The porch floor and interior windowsills were sanded and painted; both doors' trim was completed, and a mop board installed along the interior.

Hogback Homestead was the subject of real archeology this year. The Hogback site is also the oldest known prehistoric site on the forest. 1x1 meter units were placed at each boulder's location. Despite the frequent modern use of the area, quite a bit of cultural material was recovered. Two Pelican Lake bases, dating to ~3,000 BP; and one possible McKean Point,



dating 5,500-3,500 BP were identified.

Other duties at Hogback Homestead included sanding, priming and painting the exterior trim; repair, staining and sealing the window panes next to the front door; minor daubing repair; screen repair; and patching the wall in the kitchen. The wood stove and kitchen stove/range were also replaced.

The **Rock Creek Cabin** had a small crew working in the Woodshed. A locking tool chest was placed in the Workshop and a work bench was built into the wall. The doors were finished and locking bolts were

installed. In the main cabin, holes were patched in the rear exterior door and a screen door latch was put on the front door.

Routine maintenance such as vacuuming, mopping and window washing; as well as outdoor upkeep like mowing, weeding and raking were also accomplished. Between the 12 volunteers, **806 hours** of work were completed. When valued at the standard Federal rate of \$22.50/hour, amounts to a labor contribution of over **\$18,135!**

Savenac PIT Project

The 19th annual PIT project occurred at the Superior Ranger District's Historic Savenac Tree Nursery (24MN0145), a property listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This ongoing project ran from the July 14th through the 19th. Thirty volunteers worked with Superior Ranger District's Beth Kennedy and Erika Karuzas for six days. PIT volunteers donated a total of **1452 hours** during the week which, when valued at the standard Federal rate of \$22.50 per hour, resulted in a labor contribution of **\$32,148!** This year was the dawn of a new era with Kennedy and Karuzas at the helm, from the long time standing Carole Johnson and Sydney Bacon show. On the scene, the volunteers continued with their dedication and devotion. Work that was completed and lead by our crew leaders included the weeding, fertilizing, and mulching the Christmas trees that local 6th graders plant to sell during their senior year in high school. We also had our annual trail clearing and maintaining the interpretative trails around the Historic Savenac Nursery so that when people visit, they can find the trail and not get hit by low branches.



For the past 19 years without missing a single year, one of our finest volunteers Izzy Washburn continued to maintain the iris beds at all the houses, and relocates iris from past residential foundations to current residential locations. She leaves half of the iris at the original location, but moves the other half to where people can enjoy them. With her work we have found more foundations, and been able to update our site forms. The pond that was created at Savenac to make ice for sapling transportation has a residential beaver family that tries to block the outlet for the pond, our volunteers made a new cage that should prevent the beavers from doing their work. We also with permission from SHPO laid in wood chips under the trees in front of the cookhouse. We have had constant dirt issues, so we defined the picnic table grounds this year, and it looks so much better. Finally, we repaired the steps in the bunkhouse, we were missing a few, but now the steps are safe again.

In late 2013, we received from the Elers Koch family his pack saddle, tack, and panniers. They wanted us to display them at Savenac, since that was one of his many creations during his 40 years in the Forest Service. In less than a week's time, our volunteers designed and built a display case that would protect his panniers. Without history, we would have a bland past. Elers' panniers were made by the J.R Reed Brothers whose logo was named after their racehorse, "nigger boy brand" built for endurance to last through the ages. We wanted to display the panniers without worry that someone would deface or damage the panniers; now we can safely depict more of our colorful history at Savenac.

Site Inspections

Fifty five sites were inspected in 2014; eight in Granite , nineteen in Mineral, eighteen in Missoula, and ten in Sanders Counties. Five new sites were formally recorded in 2014.

Part IV: Public Objections

The Lolo National Forest received no public objections related to concerns over cultural resources or historic properties for undertakings proposed or implemented in 2014. Public comments are received through the forest's NEPA public outreach methods rather than specific Section 106 public outreach.

Part V: Out-Year/Ongoing Projects of Concern

In 2014 the Lolo National Forest will continue to assess potential environmental impacts on at least four large NEPA projects. Smaller NEPA projects will continue to be assessed at Zone Meetings.

The **12 Tamarack Assessment Area** is on the Superior Ranger District north and west of St. Regis, Montana. The 12 Tamarack project is 69,000 acres with 17,300 treatment acres. The project is a typical Lolo NF large restoration project and intends to achieve the following goals: Watershed enhancement to improve aquatic habitat; Increase resiliency and genetic diversity to vegetation; Fuels reduction in Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) and non-WUI areas to re-establish fire on the landscape; Improve and maintain big game winter range; Enhance recreation opportunities and establish consistency between trail and road travel management designations; and Road decommissioning unneeded for long-term management.

The area has received a high amount of previous survey by the Lolo NF Heritage Program over the last 39 years. During 2012, all sites either within proposed units, NRHP-eligible or unevaluated were visited. In 2013, site visits were made with CSKT Preservation Department representatives to suspected prehistoric burials along the CC Divide. Additionally, pedestrian survey occurred in areas at Tribal request. Site updates, recordings and formal determinations of eligibility have occurred. The project is anticipated to have a NEPA decision prior the completion of the Section 106 fieldwork and reporting. We are in the process working with the Advisory Council on Historic Places (ACHP) and Montana SHPO for phased consultation coinciding with project implementation.

Bonita/Quartz Section 106 Documentation and Mitigation Plan Alternatives is a result of the 2009 Lolo NF Strategic Facilities Master Plan, in which several buildings, including these two NRHP-eligible properties, across the forest were identified as excess and deemed candidates for disposal. A & E Architects of Missoula has been tasked with HABS documentation of both sites in the event of future Forest process. Formal consultation was initiated with SHPO as of 10/20/14.

Bonneville Power Association had four projects on the Forest this year, with two of them fully on Superior Ranger District, one on Ninemile Ranger District, and one that spanned from Garrison Junction to Seattle. The two projects on Superior Ranger District were completed by Ethnotech LLC, Bald to Taft Refibering and Taft Substation Repair; Ninemile Ranger District had Alberton / Ellis Mountain Access Road was completed in house; and the tri-state project is

Montana to Washington. The projects include refibering old optic lines, installing new substations, repairing old substations and maintaining access roads.

The large tri-state project is still in the process, the projects on the Superior Ranger District were submitted by Ethnotech and the project on Ninemile was submitted by the Lolo NF.

Bull Trout Tributaries is located on the Superior Ranger District west of St. Regis Montana, and south of Interstate 90. The proposed project is looking at the three main bull trout habitat streams and improving aquatic habitat in Big, Deep and John Creeks. The proposed project should be defined by 2016. We are in a preliminary phase during 2014 and 2015, hopefully having a defined project by 2016.

Cedar Creek Road and Stream Restoration is located on the Superior Ranger District south of Superior in Cedar Creek. The project is to relocate 1.6 miles of Cedar Creek Road away from the stream. The road relocation may go over historic mining features. The stream restoration plans to build wood structures in the stream. Survey was complete in 2014, and in 2015 the report was sent to SHPO and already approved at the time of this report.

Cedar Thom was a project on the Superior Ranger District south and east of Superior Montana that was mostly completed in 2010, however, many sites were recorded in the report, and were not documented into site forms. During the implementation meeting this information was revealed. After talking with SHPO Compliance Officer, Jessica Bush, would like the sites to be fully recorded and evaluated if possible from the notes.

The **Center Horse Project** on the Seeley Lake Ranger District encompassing 61,000 acres with treatment on 10,000 acres is a part of the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program (CFLRP). The Purpose of the CFLRP program is to encourage the collaborative, ecosystem restoration of priority forest landscapes on three adjacent National Forest: Lolo NF's Seeley Lake Ranger District, Flathead NF's Swan Lake Ranger District and Helena NF's Lincoln Ranger District.

The Center Horse Landscape Restoration Project involves several sections of recently acquired lands previously owned by Plum Creek Timber Company (PCTC). These sections have been fully harvested and highly disturbed. This project is being designed to: Improve/restore forest composition and restore fire-adapted ecosystems by thinning and burning; Improve water quality, restore or enhance fish and wildlife habitat, and conserve and improve soil resources by culvert replacement and road re-route; and right size the existing transportation network including road decommissioning of 160 miles of road to enhance fish and wildlife habitat.

Pedestrian survey for the Center Horse Project occurred in 2012, visiting high probability areas and previously recorded sites. The Historic Morrell Mountain lookout was formally recorded. Site updates and formal determinations of eligibility have occurred.

Jam Cracker is on the Superior and Ninemile Ranger Districts north of Superior up to the Ninemile divide and east to Stark Mountain Lookout encompassing 83,000 acres with 25,000 treatment acres. During 2014 high probability areas and known sites within vegetation treatment units were mostly surveyed. Over 500 acres within units and additional 200 acres getting to the units in high probability areas were surveyed. So far, sixteen new sites were located, and have yet to be fully documented, other specialists found four more sites that need to be checked by the archaeologist. It is expected that more than twelve to sixteen new prehistoric sites will be

recorded with this project and coordination with CSKT about the prehistoric sites has begun and will continue in 2015.

Jam Cracker, like other big gulp projects on the Lolo NF intends to achieve multiple restoration goals in watershed, aquatic habitat, fuel reduction, improve big game winter range, and enhance recreation opportunities, while right sizing our transportation infrastructure.

Kitty Corner is a small timber sale on the Plains Thompson Falls Ranger Districts north of Thompson Falls, Montana. The project is loosely defined, but will be similar to the Little Eddy Restoration Project which removed diseased trees killed from bugs. The project will be less than 500 acres of vegetation treatment

Nancy Creek Eco management Burn is a prescribed burn north of Plains on the Plains Thompson Falls Ranger Districts along the reservation boundary in Nancy Creek. Three culturally modified trees need to be inventoried prior to the ignition. Survey was attempted but turned by adverse weather conditions. The proposed project will ignite in late 2016 or 2017.

Saint Regis Floodplain is a project on the Superior Ranger District, west of St. Regis Montana on the St. Regis River. The project started in 2013 and continues to have it defined. The purpose of the project is to restore the St. Regis main stem for hydrological purpose, which would remove many historic roads. The proposed project is looking at all 33 miles of stream, and should have the defined proposed project in 2015.

Soldier Butler is located on the Ninemile Ranger District, within part of the Historic Ninemile Mining District. At this point, the NEPA Purpose and Need and project boundary are still being developed; however the project will likely include silvicultural prescriptions to thin choked stands and reduce beetle kill in the area as a result of the Fires of 2000. The area is also in the Wildland/Urban Interface (WUI). Temporary road construction, road decommissioning and stream enhancement followed by understory burning are probable.

Swamp Eddy is on the Plains/Thompson Falls Ranger Districts is south of Plains from Eddy Creek up to the CC divide out to Patrick's Knob within Forest Service lands. The project is only 50,000 acres at this time and is still undergoing analysis for the project units. As with the other big gulp projects it intends to achieve similar restoration goals as Jam Cracker. In 2014 no work was started as the focus was Jam Cracker. However, the project Little Eddy is within the project boundary of Swamp Eddy.

Part VI: 2014 Project Review

We surveyed 19 projects and 37 projects we reviewed that did not need an inventory. We had surveyed over 1200 acres that were completed this year, along with many more acres surveyed in on-going projects.